Setting up of new IITs

412. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up 5 new IITs in the country;

(b) if so, the location of the IITs and the time frame within which these would be set up; and

(c) the details of special courses (not available in the existing IITs) that would be run in these new IITs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA):(a) to (c) In view of the announcement made by the Prime Minister on 15th August, 2003 that five new IITs will be set up by upgrading promising academic institutions, the Government has constituted an Expert Committee to identify such academic institutions. Based on the recommendations of the Expert Committee, further necessary action regarding upgrading of well performing institutions shall be taken by the Government.

Franchises courses by Foreign Universities

413. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 640 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th July, 2003 and state:

(a) the details of fresh guidelines laid down, especially those relating to activities of the existing franchises offering courses on behalf of the foreign universities;

(b) whether it is a fact that neither the AICTE nor the State universities are aware of the number of franchises operating in the various States; and

(c) if so, steps being taken to create a data base and also to monitor their activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA):(a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.